

Claims

1. Device for processing poultry carcasses or parts thereof, comprising a conveyor having supports for retaining the carcasses or parts thereof, which conveyor is provided with means for leading the supports in a supply direction past at least one processing installation, wherein the device comprises a skinner for skinning the carcasses or parts thereof, which skinner is provided with skin gripping means for gripping the skin and means for moving the skin gripping means relatively with respect to the carcass and substantially perpendicular to the supply direction during skinning.

2. Device according to claim 1, wherein the skin gripping means define a skin gripping line that is transversal to the supply direction.

3. Device according to claim 1, wherein the conveyor is provided with vertical supports.

4. Device according to claim 1, wherein the skinner is provided with pressing means for pressing the skin gripping means on the carcass or a part thereof.

5. Device according to claim 1, wherein the skinner is provided with means for moving the skin gripping means towards the carcass.

6. Device according to claim 1, wherein the skinner comprises an arm substantially perpendicular to the supply direction, that is provided with

skin gripping means.

7. Device according to claim 1, wherein the skin gripping means comprise two rollers with means for rotating the rollers opposite to and considered from the carcass towards each other.

8. Device according to claim 7, wherein only one of either roller comprises means for its driving, wherein preferably said roller drives the other roller.

9. Device according to claim 7, wherein the rollers have been positioned with respect to each other for gripping the skin and retaining it.

10. Device according to claim 7, wherein the rollers have been provided with a skin gripping surface.

11. Device according to claim 10, wherein the rollers have been provided with corrugations in the longitudinal direction, preferably a planar toothing, wherein the toothing preferably is staggered and engages a little, though not completely, one into the other.

12. Device according to claim 11, wherein one of the rollers, preferably a non-driven roller, comprises a middle portion which is provided with a corrugated surface all round, and outsides having a diameter smaller than the middle portion.

13. Device according to claim 1, wherein the skinner is provided with discharge means for the skin.

14. Device according to claim 13, wherein the discharge means comprise means for moving one of either roller past its axis of rotation.

15. Device according to claim 14, wherein the means comprise an ejection plate, perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of both rollers, wherein the first roller is attached to the ejection plate, and the ejection plate is provided with a hole for sliding over the second roller, wherein the ejection plate is provided with means for moving the ejection plate to a discharge position from an inactive position to the outside over and perpendicular to the axis of rotation of the second roller.

16. Device according to claim 7, wherein the means for moving the skin gripping means perpendicular to the supply direction are in connection to the means for rotating the rollers.

17. Device according to claim 1, comprising a rail parallel to the supply direction, onto which the skinner is movably attached.

18. Device according to claim 1, comprising a sensor for locating the supports with respect to the skinner.

19. Method for skinning poultry carcasses, or parts thereof, particularly chicken, wherein skin gripping means grip the skin at one side of the carcass, and the skin gripping means are moved past the carcass in a pull-off direction of the skin, wherein the skin is pulled substantially perpendicular to the carcass at the location where the skin becomes detached from the carcass.

20. Method according to claim 19, wherein the skin gripping means comprise rollers that are pressed against the carcass, at least one of either roller being rotated so that the skin is gripped between the rollers, after which the rollers are moved past the carcass in the pull-off direction of the skin while the rollers rotate in opposite direction, clamping the skin in between them and winding it around one of the rollers.

21. Method according to claim 20, wherein after reaching the other side of the carcass the skinner moves relatively with respect to the carcass opposite to the supply direction, pulling the skin off from the other side of the carcass, after which the skin is slid from the rollers.

22. Device for processing poultry carcasses or parts thereof, comprising a conveyor comprising supports for retaining the carcasses or parts thereof, which conveyor is provided with means for leading the supports in a supply direction past processing installations, wherein the device comprises a skinner for skinning the carcasses or parts thereof, which skinner is provided with an arm perpendicular to the supply direction provided with skin gripping means for gripping the skin.

23. Device for processing poultry carcasses or parts thereof, comprising a conveyor comprising supports for retaining the carcasses or parts thereof, which conveyor is provided with means for leading the supports past processing installations, wherein the device comprises a skinner for skinning the carcasses or parts thereof, which skinner comprises skin gripping means and is provided with means for moving the skin gripping means in a plane of symmetry of the carcass.

24. Device for processing poultry carcasses or parts thereof, comprising a conveyor comprising supports for retaining the carcasses or parts thereof, which conveyor is provided with means for leading the supports past processing installations, wherein the device comprises a skinner for skinning the carcasses or parts thereof, which skinner comprises skin gripping means and discharge means for ejecting the skin from the skin gripping means.

25. Device for processing poultry carcasses or parts thereof, comprising a conveyor comprising supports for retaining the carcasses or parts thereof,

which conveyor is provided with means for leading the supports past processing installations, wherein the device comprises a skinner for skinning the carcasses or parts thereof, which skinner comprises skin gripping means, which skin gripping means have a skin gripping line that is perpendicular to the supply direction.

26. Device for processing poultry carcasses or parts thereof, comprising a conveyor comprising supports for retaining the carcasses or parts thereof, which conveyor is provided with means for leading the supports past processing installations, wherein the device comprises a skinner for skinning the carcasses or parts thereof, which skinner comprises skin gripping means, which skin gripping means comprise two clamping rollers rotatable in opposite directions, wherein the skinner comprises means for moving the rollers which means are also a means for rotating at least one of the rollers.

27. Skinner, for skinning the carcasses or parts thereof, which skinner is provided with skin gripping means for gripping the skin and means for moving the skin gripping means relatively with respect to the carcass and substantially perpendicular to the supply direction during skinning.

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